

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims to be in the form as follows:

Claim 1 (original): An amplifier circuit for amplifying an input signal, comprising:

- a) an input terminal for inputting said input signal, and
- b) an output terminal (RFP, RFN) for outputting an output signal corresponding to the amplified input signal, and
- c) a stray feedback element (C_p , C_n) by which said output signal is fed back to said input terminal,

characterized by

d) a feedback compensation terminal (RFB) for outputting a predetermined fraction of said output signal so as to reduce the stray feedback of said output signal.

Claim 2 (original): An amplifier circuit according to Claim 1, characterized in that

said output terminal is a differential output terminal comprising a first (RFP) and a second (RFN) output terminal, and said output signal is a differential output signal.

Claim 3 (original): An amplifier circuit according to Claim 2, characterized in that

said predetermined fraction is determined by the following equation:

$$U_{RFB} = a (U_{RFP} - U_{RFN}); -1 < a < 1$$

wherein the term ($U_{RFP} - U_{RFN}$) denotes the voltage value of said differential output signal, a denotes the value of said predetermined fraction, and U_{RFB} denotes the voltage value of said predetermined fraction of said output signal.

Claim 4 (previously amended): An amplifier circuit according to Claim 2, characterized in that said stray feedback element is a stray capacity (11, 12).

Claim 5 (previously amended): An amplifier circuit according to Claim 2,

characterized in that an adjustable voltage dividing means (VD) is provided for generating said fraction of said output signal.

Claim 6 (previously amended): An amplifier circuit according to Claim 2, characterized in that said amplifier circuit is a transimpedance amplifier (20).

Claim 7 (previously amended): A reproducing device comprising an amplifier circuit (20) as claimed in Claim 2, a reproducing element (10) for generating said input signal, channel decoding and/or error correction means (30) coupled to an output of said amplifier circuit (20).

Claim 8 (currently amended): A reproducing device according to Claim 7, wherein said reproducing device is an optical disc player and said reproducing element is a photo diode (10).

Claim 9 (original): A method of reducing stray feedback in an amplifier circuit (20), comprising the steps of:

- a) inputting an input signal into an input terminal; and
- b) outputting an output signal at an output terminal (RFP, RFN),

characterized by the steps of

- c) providing a feedback compensation terminal (RFB) at said amplifier circuit;

and

- d) generating a predetermined fraction of said differential output signal and supplying said predetermined fraction to said feedback compensation terminal (RFB) so as to reduce stray feedback of said output signal.

Claim 10 (original): A method according to Claim 9, characterized by determining and adjusting the value of said predetermined fraction when said amplifier circuit is manufactured.

Claim 11 (previously amended): A method according to Claim 9, characterized by updating the value of said predetermined fraction during a start-up of a device in which said amplifier circuit is provided.

Claim 12 (previously amended): A method according to Claim 9, characterized by generating said predetermined fraction by a voltage dividing operation.

Claim 13 (new): A method according to Claim 9, wherein the step of generating further comprises said predetermined fraction being determined by the following equation:

$$U_{RFB} = a (U_{RFP} - U_{RFN}); -1 < a < 1$$

wherein the term $(U_{RFP} - U_{RFN})$ denotes the voltage value of said differential output signal, a denotes the value of said predetermined fraction, and U_{RFB} denotes the voltage value of said predetermined fraction of said output signal.

Claim 14 (new): A method according to Claim 9, wherein the step of inputting further comprises inputting differential stray feedback signals from the output terminal (RFP, RFN) to the input terminal and the step of providing further comprises providing a stray feed back signal from the feedback compensation terminal (RFB) to the input terminal.

Claim 15 (new): A method according to Claim 14, wherein the step of providing further comprises providing the stray feedback signal to eliminate stray capacities within the differential feedback signal.

Claim 16 (new): A method according to Claim 9, wherein the step of generating further comprises generating the predetermined fraction further comprises controlling the predetermined fraction using either the input signal or a programmable voltage divider.